

What is claimed is:

5 1. A method of trial purchase for allowing users of a plurality of terminals connected to commodity providing means through a network to experience a purchase procedure of a commodity provided from said commodity providing means through said network, said method comprising the steps of:

displaying information on a commodity provided from said commodity providing means for trial purchase on said terminal; and

10 performing said purchase procedure for trial purchase by the user using said terminal.

2. The method of trial purchase according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

previously storing a destination of said commodity for trial purchase; and

5 providing said commodity for trial purchase to said previously stored destination when said commodity for trial purchase is specified on said terminal.

3. The method of trial purchase according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

previously storing a destination of said commodity for trial purchase;

5 displaying said previously stored destination

on said terminal when said commodity for trial purchase is specified on said terminal; and

designating said previously stored destination or a newly designated destination as a destination of said commodity.

4. The method of trial purchase according to claim 3, further comprising the step of storing said newly designated destination.

5. The method of trial purchase according to claim 1, wherein said commodity for trial purchase is free of charge.

6. The method of trial purchase according to claim 2, wherein said commodity for trial purchase is free of charge.

7. The method of trial purchase according to claim 3, wherein said commodity for trial purchase is free of charge.

8. The method of trial purchase according to claim 4, wherein said commodity for trial purchase is free of charge.

✓ 9. A trial purchase system comprising:
a plurality of terminals; and
commodity providing means connected to said
plurality of terminals through a network for displaying
5 information on a commodity for trial purchase on said
terminal and providing said commodity for trial purchase
to a destination designated on said terminal when said
commodity for trial purchase is specified on said
terminal.

10. The trial purchase system according to claim 9,
wherein said commodity providing means includes means for
previously storing said destination and providing said
commodity for trial purchase to said previously stored
5 destination when said commodity for trial purchase is
specified on said terminal.

11. The trial purchase system according to claim 9,
wherein said commodity providing means includes means for
previously storing said destination and providing said
commodity for trial purchase to a newly designated
5 destination when said commodity for trial purchase is
specified on said terminal and said new destination is
designated therefor.

12. The trial purchase system according to claim

11, wherein said commodity providing means includes means for storing said newly designated destination.

13. The trial purchase system according to claim 10, further comprising customer information storing means for storing information on said destinations.

14. The trial purchase system according to claim 11, further comprising customer information storing means for storing information on said destinations.

15. The trial purchase system according to claim 12, further comprising customer information storing means for storing information on said destinations.

16. The trial purchase system according to claim 9, further comprising commodity information storing means for storing information on said commodity.

17. The trial purchase system according to claim 10, further comprising commodity information storing means for storing information on said commodity.

18. The trial purchase system according to claim 11, further comprising commodity information storing means for storing information on said commodity.

19. The trial purchase system according to claim 12, further comprising commodity information storing means for storing information on said commodity.

20. The trial purchase system according to claim 13, further comprising commodity information storing means for storing information on said commodity.

21. The trial purchase system according to claim 14, further comprising commodity information storing means for storing information on said commodity.

22. The trial purchase system according to claim 15, further comprising commodity information storing means for storing information on said commodity.

23. Backup means for use in the trial purchase system according to claim 13, said backup means comprising means for holding the information on the destinations stored in said customer information storing means.

24. Backup means for use in the trial purchase system according to claim 14, said backup means comprising means for holding the information on the

destinations stored in said customer information storing
5 means.

25. Backup means for use in the trial purchase
system according to claim 15, said backup means
comprising means for holding the information on the
destinations stored in said customer information storing
5 means.

26. Backup means for use in the trial purchase
system according to claim 16, said backup means
comprising means for holding the commodity information
stored in said commodity information storing means.

27. Backup means for use in the trial purchase
system according to claim 17, said backup means
comprising means for holding the commodity information
stored in said commodity information storing means.

28. Backup means for use in the trial purchase
system according to claim 18, said backup means
comprising means for holding the commodity information
stored in said commodity information storing means.

29. Backup means for use in the trial purchase
system according to claim 19, said backup means

comprising means for holding the commodity information stored in said commodity information storing means.

30. Backup means for use in the trial purchase system according to claim 20, said backup means comprising means for holding the commodity information stored in said commodity information storing means.

31. Backup means for use in the trial purchase system according to claim 21, said backup means comprising means for holding the commodity information stored in said commodity information storing means.

32. Backup means for use in the trial purchase system according to claim 22, said backup means comprising means for holding the commodity information stored in said commodity information storing means.

33. The trial purchase system according to claim 9, wherein said commodity providing means includes means for providing said commodity for trial purchase at no charge.

34. A method of gathering customer information on users of a plurality of terminals from said terminals connected to a network, said method comprising the steps of:

5 providing said terminal with information on a
commodity for trial purchase to allow experience of a
procedure of commodity purchase through said network; and
causing entry of customer information on a
user who makes an order for a commodity based on said
10 commodity information into said terminal when said order
is received.

35. The method of gathering customer information
according to claim 34, wherein said customer information
is previously stored and said previously stored customer
information is changeable when said commodity for trial
5 purchase is ordered on said terminal.

36. The method of gathering customer information
according to claim 35, further comprising the step of
storing the name of said commodity for trial purchase in
correspondence with the customer information of said user
5 who ordered said commodity.

37. The method of gathering customer information
according to claim 34, wherein said commodity for trial
purchase is free of charge.

38. The method of gathering customer information
according to claim 35, wherein said commodity for trial

purchase is free of charge.

39. The method of gathering customer information according to claim 36, wherein said commodity for trial purchase is free of charge.

✓40. A customer information gathering system comprising:

a plurality of terminals; and

information gathering means connected to said
5 plurality of terminals through a network for providing
said terminal with information on a commodity for trial
purchase to allow experience of a procedure of commodity
purchase through said network and requiring entry of
customer information on a user who makes an order for a
10 commodity based on said commodity information when said
order is received.

41. The customer information gathering system according to claim 40, wherein said information gathering means includes means for previously storing said customer information and allowing a change in said previously
5 stored customer information when said commodity for trial purchase is ordered on said terminal.

42. The customer information gathering system

according to claim 41, wherein said information gathering means includes means for storing the name of said commodity for trial purchase in correspondence with the
5 customer information of said user who ordered said commodity.

43. The customer information gathering system according to claim 41, further comprising customer information storing means for storing said customer information.

44. The customer information gathering system according to claim 42, further comprising customer information storing means for storing said customer information.

45. The customer information gathering system according to claim 40, further comprising commodity information storing means for storing said information on said commodity.

46. The customer information gathering system according to claim 42, further comprising commodity information storing means for storing said information on said commodity.

47. The customer information gathering system according to claim 43, further comprising commodity information storing means for storing said information on said commodity.

48. The customer information gathering system according to claim 44, further comprising commodity information storing means for storing said information on said commodity.

49. Backup means for use in the customer information gathering system according to claim 43, said backup means comprising means for holding said customer information stored in said customer information storing means.

50. Backup means for use in the customer information gathering system according to claim 44, said backup means comprising means for holding said customer information stored in said customer information storing means.

51. Backup means for use in the customer information gathering system according to claim 45, said backup means comprising means for holding said commodity information stored in said commodity information storing

5 means.

52. Backup means for use in the customer information gathering system according to claim 46, said backup means comprising means for holding said commodity information stored in said commodity information storing means.

53. Backup means for use in the customer information gathering system according to claim 47, said backup means comprising means for holding said commodity information stored in said commodity information storing means.

54. Backup means for use in the customer information gathering system according to claim 48, said backup means comprising means for holding said commodity information stored in said commodity information storing means.

55. The customer information gathering system according to claim 40, wherein said information gathering system includes means for providing said commodity for trial purchase at no charge.

56. A selling system, connected to a plurality of

terminals through a network and held by a company,
organization or the like providing a commodity in
response to an order from said plurality of terminals,
5 for providing a commodity for trial purchase for allowing
users of said terminals to experience a purchase
procedure of said commodity to a destination designated
on said terminal, said selling system comprising means
for displaying information on said commodity for trial
10 purchase on said terminal and making an order to provide
said commodity for trial purchase to said destination
designated on said terminal when said commodity is
specified on said terminal.

57. The selling system according to claim 56,
further comprising means for providing said commodity for
trial purchase at no charge.

58. Backup means comprising means for holding
functions of said selling system according to claim 56
and information accumulated in said selling system.

59. Backup means comprising means for holding
functions of said selling system according to claim 57
and information accumulated in said selling system.